

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 were pending. Claims 1-15 and 19-23 have been canceled. Claim 16 has been amended, and new claims 24-28 added. No new matter is added.

Support for the amending language of Claim 16 may be found in the specification, paragraph 10, in Table 1, and paragraph 27. Support for the language of Claim 24 and 25 may be found in the specification at paragraph 48. Support for the amending language of Claim 26 may be found in the specification at paragraph 49. Support for the amending language of Claim 27 may be found at paragraph 53. Support for the amending language of Claim 28 may be found in the specification at paragraph 31, line 5. Support for the amending language of Claim 29 may be found in the specification at paragraph 63, line 5. Support for the amending language of Claim 30 may be found in the specification at paragraph 18, line 10.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect the invention of Group D, Claims 16-18, and the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:93, corresponding to the open reading frame Rv2653c.

Applicants note that the claim language as presently amended is commensurate in language and scope with the claim language of the immediate parent to the present application, now issued as U.S. 6,686,166.

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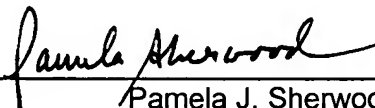
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a Telephone Conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number stan-102CON2.

Respectfully submitted,

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